

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 7: AGRICULTURE AND ANIMALS**  
**Chapter 739: CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

**§4020. CRUEL CONFINEMENT OF CALVES RAISED FOR VEAL AND SOWS DURING GESTATION**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Calf raised for veal" means a calf of the bovine species kept for the purpose of producing the food product referred to as veal. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

B. "Covered animal" means a sow during gestation or calf raised for veal that is kept on a farm. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

C. "Enclosure" means a cage, crate or other structure used to confine a covered animal, including, but not limited to, what is commonly described as a "gestation crate" for sows or a "veal crate" for calves. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

D. "Farm" has the same meaning as in section 152. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

E. "Fully extending the animal's limbs" means fully extending all limbs without touching the side of an enclosure. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

F. "Sow during gestation" means a pregnant pig of the porcine species kept for the primary purpose of breeding. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

G. "Turning around freely" means turning in a complete circle without any impediment, including a tether, and without touching the side of an enclosure. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

[ 2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF) .]

**2. Prohibition.** A person may not tether or confine a covered animal for all or the majority of a day in a manner that prevents the animal from:

A. Lying down, standing up and fully extending the animal's limbs; and [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

B. Turning around freely. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

[ 2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF) .]

**3. Exceptions.** Subsection 2 does not apply:

A. To an animal while it is the subject of scientific or agricultural research; [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

B. During examination, testing, individual treatment of or operation on an animal for veterinary purposes; [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

C. To an animal being transported; [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

D. To an animal at a rodeo exhibition or state or county fair exhibition; [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

E. To an animal at a 4-H event or similar exhibition; [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

F. To the slaughter of an animal in accordance with Title 22, chapter 562-A, subchapter 4 and rules pertaining to the slaughter of animals; and [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

G. To a sow during the 7-day period prior to the sow's expected date of giving birth and until the sow's litter is weaned. [2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).]

[ 2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF) .]

**4. Relation to other laws.** The provisions of this section are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other laws protecting animal welfare. This section may not be construed to limit any state law or rules protecting the welfare of animals or to prevent a local governing body from adopting and enforcing its own animal welfare laws and regulations.

The affirmative defense provisions in section 4016, subsection 3 do not apply to this section. It is not an affirmative defense to alleged violations of this section that the calf or sow was kept as part of an agricultural operation and in compliance with best management practices for animal husbandry.

[ 2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW); 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF) .]

#### SECTION HISTORY

2009, c. 127, §1 (NEW). 2009, c. 127, §3 (AFF).

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